REMARKS

This Amendment is submitted in response to the Office Action dated July 2, 2004, having a shortened statutory period set to expire October 4, 2004. Claims 9-28 are pending.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112 and 103

In paragraph 5 of the present Office Action, Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. In paragraph 8 of the present Office Action, Claims 1-8 Claims 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Madsen et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,317,758B1 – "*Madsen*") in view of Toman, "The Amazing Data Connection," Journal of Accountancy, New York, May 1994, vol. 17, pages 63-68 ("*Toman*"). Claims 1-8 are cancelled, and thus these rejections are moot.

Applicants do not believe that *Madsen* or *Toman* are applicable prior art with reference to the pending claims.

Madsen teaches a method for converting a relative address to an absolute address in an electronic spreadsheet (*Madsen*, col. 3, lines 38-47). *Toman* teaches that data can be shared across different software platforms.

With reference to exemplary Claim 9, neither cited prior teaches or suggests "applying a destination visual appearance attribute to the destination range of cells that indicates that the destination range of cells contains a copy of the persistent copy of cells."

Similarly, with reference to exemplary Claim 20, neither cited prior art teaches or suggests "storing the source range of cells and the destination range of cells in a persistent copy-paste table in a non-volatile memory."

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Likewise, with reference to exemplary Claim 28, neither cited prior art teaches or suggests "applying a source visual appearance attribute to the source range of cells, the source visual appearance attribute being removed from the source range of cells only if a copy-paste manager invokes a break-paste command that breaks a relationship previously established between the source rage of cells and the destination range of cells."

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CONCLUSION

Applicants now respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for all pending claims.

No extension of time for this response is believed to be necessary. However, in the event an extension of time is required, that extension of time is hereby requested. Please charge any fee associated with an extension of time as well as any other fee necessary to further the prosecution of this application to **IBM CORPORATION DEPOSIT ACCOUNT No. 09-0457.**

Respectfully submitted,



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